(b) to (e) Second Thermal Power Station expansion project (Stage II) comprises of 4 units of 210 MW each. The project is under implementation. The first unit of the project is scheduled to be commissioned in Novemer, 1990 and the last unit in February, 1993

A sum of Rs. 315.08 crores has been spent upto February, 1989 against a total allocation of Rs. 403.04 crores till 1988-89.

Setting up of Thermal Power Plant at Mettur, Tamil Nadu

2047. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up thermal power plants at Mettur, Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Central Government is proposing assistance therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) Two units of 210 MW each are in operation at the Mettur thermal power project and two more units of 210 MW each are programmed to be installed during the Seventh Plan period.

(c) Central assistance is provided to the States in block and not for a specific project.

Digital trunk auto exchange at Madurai

2048. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to install digital trunk auto exchange at Madurai;

(b) if so, what are its salient features; and

(c) what will be its cost and by when it will be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to provide transit facility as part of the digital local exchange.

(b) The salient features of the digital trunk auto exchange are given in the enclosed Statement (*see* below).

(c) The equipment required for Trunk Automatic working is expected to cost around Rs. 15000 per line and is expected to become operational early in the 8th plan period.

Statement

Salient features of Digital Trunk Auto Exchange

1. Throughput efficiency is good.
2. Translation, Routing and charging functions are accomplished with the help of a programme stored in the memory of a computer.
3. Alternate routing of trunk calls is quicker and easier.
4. Opening, Closing, Addition, Deletion of trunks can be quickly accomplished by giving instructions to the exchange Computer through a keyboard. Change of tariff can be easliy introduced.
5. Equipment design and installation practices are improved resulting in short installation and testing duration.
6. Performance monitoring, Diagnostic facility and automatic restoration of faults are carried out by the inbuilt Computer in the exchange.
7. Centralised management and supervision functions for a group of exchanges.

8. Use of Pulse Code Modulation.

9. Space requirements are less than electromechanical exchanges.

10. Level of maintenance staff is high although maintenance effort required is less than electromechanical trunk automatic exchange.

Improving trunk dialling system in Tamil Nadu

2049. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what major developmental steps are being taken by Government to improve the trunk dialling system between major cities in Tamil Nadu in the near future; and

(b) what are the details of each scheme alongwith cost and approximate year of commissioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) In order to improve the trunk dialling system between major cities in Tamil Nadu State it is proposed to take the following major steps:

(i) Commissioning electronic trunk automatic exchanges.

(ii) Phase out electromechanical trunk automatic exchanges

(iii) Provide reliable transmission medium to interconnect major cities.

(iv) Commission electronic local exchanges.

(b) Broad details of the schemes are given in Annexure. The total cost of these schemes will be the order of Rs. 75 Crores These schemes are expected to be commissioned progressively by 1995.

Statement

Annexure

Part (b) *Details of Development schemes in Tamilnadu*

(i) *Electronic trunk automatic exchanges to be commissioned:*

Station	Capacity	Year
Madras	5000 lines	89-90
Coimbatore	500 lines	90-91
	+ 1000 lines	90-91
Madurai	500 lines	91-92
	+ 1000 lines	91-92
Tirunelveli	500 lines	91-92
Trichy	2000 lines	Working
Salem	1000 lines	90-91

(ii) *Electromechanical trunk automatic equipment to be phased out:*

Station	Capacity	Year
Madras OGTT	2000	89-90
Madras ICTT	2000	89-90
Salem PC TAX	1000	90-91
Coimbatore PC TAX	2000	90-91
Madurai PC TAX	2200	91-92

(iii) *Provide reliable transmission media:*

Optical Fibre cable link (140 Mbps)	
Madras-Trichy	8th Plan
Trichy-Madurai	8th Plan
Coaxial Cable link (12 MHz)	
Madurai-Trivandrum	8th Plan
Rajapalayam-Sankarankovil	8th Plan
Digital UHF links (120 chl) 5 routes	8th Plan
Digital UHF links (30 chl) 5 routes	8th Plan

(iv) *Provide electronic local exchanges:*

(a) 36000 lines of E-10B type digital local exchange at Coimbatore,